IAP20 Rec'd PGT/770 11 JAN 2006

DNAG-313-US (10600330)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Bick, et al.

Serial No.

Please assign

Filed

For

METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF METAL POWDERS

OR METAL HYDRIDE POWDERS OF THE ELEMENTS TI,

ZR, HF, V, N, TA AND CR

Art Unit

To be assigned

Examiner

To be assigned

January 11, 2006

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

MS: PCT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by Express Mail No: EV 793659551 US in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to prosecution on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: